

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Daniel R. Salomon, on February 8, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Daniel R. Salomon, Chair (R)
Sen. Mark Blasdel, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Llew Jones (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Padraic McCracken, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 159, 1/31/2017; HB 185, 2/02/2017
Executive Action: HB 119, Be Concurred In As Amended; HJ 1, Be Concurred In;
SB 139, Do Pass

00:00:11 Chair Salomon

HEARING ON SB 159

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:15 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 159, Revise laws related to community colleges and bonding.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:01:47 Jane Karas, Flathead Valley Community College (FVCC)

00:03:42 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

00:04:56 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:07:01 Sen. Facey

00:07:38 Ms. Karas, FVCC

00:07:58 Chair Salomon

00:09:58 Ms. Karas

00:10:13 Sen. Tempel

00:10:23 Ms. Karas

Closing by Sponsor:

00:10:42 Sen. Blasdel

00:12:41 Brief Recess

00:14:36 Reconvened

00:15:05 Chair Salomon

HEARING ON HB 185

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:17 Rep. Shane Morigeau (D), HD 95, opened the hearing on HB 185, Establish grant program to eliminate tuition for certain postsecondary programs.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:25:02 Rep. Jacob Bachmeier, HD 28

[EXHIBIT\(eds28a01\)](#)

00:27:30 Andy Bixler, Montana Associated Students

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

February 8, 2017

PAGE 3 of 6

00:30:09 Tom Arvidson, self

00:31:31 Roberta Crane, self

[EXHIBIT](#)(eds28a02)

00:33:07 Katy Westhoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group

00:34:08 Jordon Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

[EXHIBIT](#)(eds28a03)

00:37:33 Sen. Regier entered the hearing.

00:39:25 Jules Shindel, Montana Human Rights Network

00:39:54 Bridger Mahlum, Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:45:22 Ron Muffick, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:45:48 Sen. McClafferty

00:46:59 Rep. Morigeau

00:48:36 Sen. McClafferty

00:48:57 Mr. Muffick, OCHE

00:49:38 Sen. Facey

00:52:08 Mr. Muffick

00:52:47 Chair Salomon

00:54:40 Rep. Morigeau

00:55:18 Sen. Blasdel

00:56:03 Rep. Morigeau

00:58:10 Sen. Facey

00:58:22 Rep. Morigeau

01:00:43 Chair Salomon

01:05:10 Rep. Morigeau

01:06:48 Sen. Boland

01:07:04 Mr. Muffick

01:07:37 Sen. Blasdel

01:08:10 Mr. Muffick

Closing by Sponsor:

01:09:16 Rep. Morigeau

01:14:39 Chair Salomon

01:15:46 Recess

01:27:45 Reconvened

01:27:46 Chair Salomon

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 119

01:27:47 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **HB 119 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:28:05 Sen. McClafferty

01:28:06 Sen. Regier

01:28:20 **Motion:** Sen. K. Regier moved that **HB 119 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(eds28a04)

Discussion:

01:29:12 Sen. Regier

01:29:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. L. Jones voted by proxy.

01:29:48 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **HB 119 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:29:59 Sen. Facey

01:30:27 Pad McCracken, Legislative Services Division

01:30:49 Sen. Facey

01:31:51 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. L. Jones voted by proxy.
Sen. Tempel will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 1

01:32:21 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **HJ 1 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:32:38 Chair Salomon

01:32:46 Sen. McClafferty

01:33:26 Sen. Facey

01:33:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. L. Jones voted by proxy.
Sen. McClafferty will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 139

01:34:30 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SB 139 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:34:38 Chair Salomon

01:35:09 **Motion:** Sen. Facey moved that **SB 139 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(eds28a05)

Discussion:

01:35:35 Sen. Facey
01:37:21 Sen. McClafferty
01:37:47 Chair Salomon
01:38:20 Sen. Facey

01:38:41 **Vote:** Motion failed 1-7 by roll call vote with Sen. Facey voting aye. Sen. L. Jones voted by proxy.

01:39:30 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SB 139 DO PASS.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. L. Jones voted by proxy.

01:39:53 Chair Salomon
01:40:22 Dennis Parman, self
01:40:53 Chair Salomon

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:50 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

cd

Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([eds28aad.pdf](#))